(c) Yes, Sir. The labourers in the Kanhan area and Pench area are getting full benefit from these ambulances.

(c) Not applicable in view of the reply to part (b).

Buying of mining assets abroad by CIL

2423.DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is going to buy mining assets abroad and enter into joint ventures with certain overseas companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is total production of coal in India right now, and how much production is likely to be added due to these joint ventures;

(d) whether there are some other companies also in-line, to buy coal assets abroad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) is pursuing its foreign venture initiatives through Coal Videsh Division functioning at CIL (Headquarter), Kolkata. Through such initiatives CIL intends acquiring coal mining blocks abroad, to develop and produce from such mines and import the produce to India with the strategic objective of enhancing the energy security of the Nation. Australia, South Africa, Mozambique, United States of America (USA) and Indonesia have been selected by CIL for acquiring mining assets. CIL has also floated an Expression of Interest (EoI) to select Strategic Partner(s) in USA, Australia, South Africa and Indonesia,

(c) The production of raw coal by CIL during 2008-09 is 403.73 million tonnes and from April, 2009 to June, 2009 is 96.15 million tonnes.

The foreign venture initiatives undertaken by Coal Videsh Division are in their initial stages and year-wise targets have not been finalized so far.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has also approved formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) through Joint Venture between Coal India Limited (CIL)/ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)/ Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)/ National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) and National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC), which has been registered as "International Coal Ventures Private Limited (ICVL). The purpose of ICVL is to invest in coal resources abroad to meet the coal demand of partner companies.

Coal Production

2424. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual coal production capacity of the country is able to meet the requirements of power sector;

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.